

**AMENDMENTS**

**In the Claims**

Please cancel claims 1-17.

Please add new claims 18 – 23.

1 – 17 (Cancelled)

18. (New) An iron golf club provided with a head portion having a cavity portion with a length along a first axis extending from a toe portion to a heel portion, a face portion, and a sole portion, comprising:

a groove extending along said face portion is provided on a surface on said cavity portion side of said sole portion;

a projected wall portion offset from said face portion and extending upward from said sole portion and having a length along said first axis that is less than said length of said cavity portion along said first axis; and

a thickness of a ball hitting portion in said face portion is made greater than a thickness of a top edge side portion of said face portion located between said ball hitting portion and a top edge portion and at least as thick as a thickness of a sole side portion of said face portion that is located between said ball hitting portion and said sole portion and that extends along said groove.

19. (New) The iron golf club according to claim 18, wherein  
said thickness of said ball hitting portion is made greater than a thickness of a toe side portion of said face portion located between a toe portion of said head portion and said ball hitting portion and greater than a thickness of a heel side portion of said face portion located between a heel portion of said head portion and said ball hitting portion.

20. (New) The iron golf club according to claim 18, wherein  
said toe side portion includes a first region located on said top edge portion side and a second region located on said sole portion side,

said heel side portion includes a third region located on said top edge portion side and a fourth region located on said sole portion, and

a thickness of said first region is made smaller than a thickness of said second region, and a thickness of said third region is made smaller than a thickness of said fourth region.

21. (New) The iron golf club according to claim 18, wherein said projected wall portion that defines one of side walls of said groove and that rises along said face portion toward said top edge portion.

22. (New) The iron golf club according to claim 18, wherein said projected wall portion is trapezoidal in shape.

23. (New) The iron golf club according to claim 18, wherein said head portion is formed by forging.